

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 8, 2006

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 115

Introduced by Senator Chesbro

April 24, 2006

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 115—Relative to “Year of the Community.”

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 115, as amended, Chesbro. Year of the Community and Developmental Disabilities.

This measure would proclaim the year 2006 as “Year of the Community” and would ~~encourage the support of California’s system of serving~~ *declare that the Legislature will actively promote the rights of persons with developmental disabilities and their families and their full inclusion into community life.*

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 *WHEREAS, Forty years ago the State of California launched a*
- 2 *bold experiment in public-private partnership that fundamentally*
- 3 *changed and dramatically improved the quality of life for people*
- 4 *with developmental disabilities and their families and that would*
- 5 *become a model for the nation; and*
- 6 *WHEREAS, The vision to enable people with developmental*
- 7 *disabilities to live full, productive, and satisfying lives as active*
- 8 *members of their communities was embodied in a statewide*
- 9 *network of community-based services and supports with regional*
- 10 *centers playing the role of the coordinating hub; and*
- 11 *WHEREAS, California’s first pilot regional centers for*
- 12 *delivering services to the developmentally disabled persons with*

1 *developmental disabilities*, the Childrens Hospital at Los
2 Angeles, and the San Francisco Aid for Retarded Children, which
3 opened in 1966, marked the beginning of our state's *the* regional
4 center system; and

5 WHEREAS, ~~The success of these two pilot programs lead~~ *By*
6 *their achievements, the pilot centers proved the merit of the*
7 *regional center concept and led to the introduction of Assembly*
8 *Bill No. 225 in 1969, known as The which enacted the*
9 *Lanterman Mental Retardation Services Act, which created a*
10 *statewide system of services for the developmentally disabled by*
11 *producing a dynamic network of community services, supports,*
12 *and nonprofit agencies that provided fixed points of access to the*
13 *resources necessary for maximized development; and of 1969,*
14 *which is currently known as the Lanterman Developmental*
15 *Disabilities Services Act, and which established the statewide*
16 *system of services for persons with developmental disabilities;*
17 *and*

18 WHEREAS, *The statewide system was designed to be*
19 *organized at the regional level and to produce a dynamic*
20 *network of local services and supports; and*

21 WHEREAS, The increased availability of services in the
22 community precipitated the state's shift from nearly total reliance
23 on large state institutions to a regional service system in which
24 more than 98 percent of children and adults with developmental
25 disabilities receive all of their needed services and supports in the
26 community; and

27 WHEREAS, The regional center system was intended to
28 ~~provide care and support~~ *services and supports* to individuals
29 with developmental disabilities, ~~and to work towards integration~~
30 ~~into the mainstream of life in the community; and~~ *disabilities*
31 *that are innovative and cost-effective, that result in growth and*
32 *development, that improve the quality of life, and that support*
33 *inclusion into community life; and*

34 WHEREAS, During the decades following the passage of the
35 Lanterman Act, the service system's evolution was enabled by
36 advances in knowledge and technology and by the increasing
37 recognition of the right of people with disabilities to choice and
38 full participation in society, including the rights of children to
39 live at home with their families; and

1 WHEREAS, ~~While the~~ The 21 regional centers in California
2 continue to expand and diversify their services while serving
3 over 200,000 persons with developmental disabilities and their
4 families; and

5 *WHEREAS, The service system has grown increasingly*
6 *complex, requirements for service providers have grown in*
7 *sophistication, and expectations for services have become more*
8 *rigorous due to advances in knowledge and technology; and*

9 WHEREAS, The 40th anniversary of the regional center
10 system is an appropriate time to reaffirm our commitment to the
11 Lanterman Act, and renew our investment in the community
12 system; now, therefore, be it

13 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
14 *thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby proclaims the*
15 *year of 2006 as the “Year of the Community,” and encourages*
16 *the people of the State of California to support California’s*
17 *system of serving persons with developmental disabilities and*
18 *their families; and be it further Community” and the beginning of*
19 *a decade of renewed commitment to the vision of the Lanterman*
20 *Act and investment in the community service system; and be it*
21 *further*

22 *RESOLVED, That the Legislature will actively promote the*
23 *rights of people with developmental disabilities and their full*
24 *inclusion into community life in California; and be it further*

25 *Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of*
26 *this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.*

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